

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in this application, of which claims 13-21 and 23 are withdrawn as a result of the July 3, 2006 Restriction Requirement. By this Amendment, claims 1-5 and 9-12 are amended and claims 24-25 are added.

I. Request for Specificity

The Office Action fails to indicate which elements of the applied reference allegedly correspond to the features recited in independent claims 3-5 and 10-12. Thus, the Office Action fails to establish a *prima facie* rejection as it is unclear how the applied reference corresponds to the claimed subject matter. Applicant requests that the Examiner identify the correspondence between the applied references and the features recited in the claims in all future correspondence so that Applicant is able to understand the basis for rejection.

II. Claim Rejection

The Office Action rejects claims 1-12 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0067424 to Akimoto et al. (Akimoto). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Akimoto discloses an OLED display panel including pixels 70, each pixel 70 having an OLED 7, an OLED drive TFT 74 coupled to a power supply line 18, a reset TFT switch 75 connected across the gate and drain of OLED drive TFT 74, an input TFT switch 71 connected between the gate of OLED drive TFT 74 and signal line 77 (Fig. 10; paragraph [0083]). The Office Action asserts that Akimoto's light-on switch line 79 corresponds to the first power source line of the claims.

Thus, regarding independent claims 1 and 2, Akimoto fails to disclose: (1) a first power source line; (2) the first transistor connected to the first power source line; (3) a driving current flowing between the first power source line and the electronic element; and (4) a driving current corresponding to the conduction state of the first transistor.

Akimoto fails to disclose the first power source line under the Office Action's interpretation because light-on switch line 79 is not a power source line. Light-on switch line 79 is a signal line whose signal depends on the state of light-on switch OR gate 80. OR gates are not recognized power sources to one of ordinary skill in the art. Additionally, light-on switch line 79 is connected to the gates of light-on TFT switches. Light-on TFT switches 76 are depicted as p-channel MOSFET transistors because their symbol matches OLED drive TFTs 74, which are disclosed as p-channel MOSFET transistors (paragraph [0083]). As is known in the art, MOSFET transistors do not conduct current through their gate electrodes. Current flowing into or out of the gate of a MOSFET is, by design, an impossibility because MOSFETS are fabricated with insulators between the gate electrode and the channel region. Thus, as no current will be accepted by any light-on TFT switch 76 from light-on switch line 79, light-on switch line 79 does not deliver any power to anything and thus cannot be a power source line.

Akimoto fails to disclose the first transistor connected to the power source line even under the Office Action's interpretation because OLED drive TFT 74 is not connected to light-on switch line 79.

Akimoto fails to disclose a driving current flowing between the first power source line and the electronic element because, given the Office Action's assertion that light-on switch line 79 is the first power source line, there can be no current conducted to an OLED 7 from the corresponding light-on switch line 79. This results, as discussed above, because the light-on switch line 79 is connected to the gate of the light-on TFT switch 76, which cannot conduct any current through its gate electrode as discussed above.

Akimoto fails to disclose a driving current corresponding to the conduction state of the first transistor because (a) light-on TFT switch 76 is a MOSFET transistor and can not have any gate current. Thus, light-on switch line 79 will have no signal current. If there is no

signal current, there cannot be a correspondence between the conduction state of OLED drive TFT 74 and the current of light-on switch line 79 as alleged; (b) however, even if there were a current in light-on switch line 79, because this line is not connected to or otherwise directly related to the drive signal line for OLED drive TFT 74, the current in light-on signal line 79 can not correspond to the conduction state of OLED drive TFT 74 as recited in Applicant's claims.

Regarding independent claims 3-5, the Office Action fails to indicate which elements of Fig. 10 correspond to the recited features as discussed above. For purposes of this reply, Applicant assumes the rejection to parallel the rejection of claims 1-2 in so far as possible.

Under this assumption, Akimoto fails to disclose (1) the recited third transistor having a fifth terminal connected to the first terminal of the first transistor; and (2) the first terminal of the first transistor being coupled to the first power source line. Akimoto fails to disclose the recited third transistor having a fifth terminal coupled to the first terminal of the first transistor because input TFT switch 71 does not have any terminal coupled to any terminal of OLED drive TFT 74. Akimoto fails to disclose the first terminal of the first transistor being coupled to the first power source line because OLED drive TFT 74 is not connected to light-on switch line 79.

Regarding independent claims 10-12, the Office Action fails to indicate which elements of Fig. 10 correspond to the recited features as discussed above. For purposes of this reply, Applicant assumes the rejection to parallel the rejection of claims 1-2 in so far as possible.

Thus, regarding claims 10-12, Akimoto fails to disclose (1) supplying a driving current whose level corresponds to the conduction state of the first transistor to an electronic element, the driving current flowing between the one first power source line and the electronic element through the first transistor; and (2) the driving voltage being applied to a

drain of the first transistor or a source of the first transistor through the first power source line during at least a part of a second period in which the supplying of the driving current to the electronic element is performed.

Akimoto fails to disclose supplying a driving current whose level corresponds to the conduction state of the first transistor to an electronic element, the driving current flowing between the one first power source line and the electronic element through the first transistor because the Office Action asserts that light-on switch line 79 corresponds to the first power source line. Because light-on switch line 79 does not carry the current which flows through the OLED drive TFT 76 or OLED 7, this feature is not met.

Akimoto fails to disclose the driving voltage being applied to a drain of the first transistor or a source of the first transistor through the first power source line during at least a part of a second period in which the supplying of the driving current to the electronic element is performed because, again, light-on switch line 79 is not coupled to the OLED drive TFT 76, and thus cannot provide the drive voltage as recited.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

III. Alternative Interpretation of Akimoto

Akimoto discloses power supply lines 18 (Fig. 10). Thus, as an alternative, if power supply line 18 is taken to correspond to the recited first power source line, Akimoto additionally fails to disclose (1) the first power source line being electrically disconnected from a driving potential during at least a part of a first period (claims 1 and 10-12); (2) the first power source line being set to first and second voltages at different times (claim 2); and (3) the potential of the first power source line being set to a plurality of potentials for controlling an electrical connection between the first power source line and a driving voltage (claims 3-5).

IV. New Claims

By this Amendment, new claims 24-25 are added. Claim 24 is patentable for the same reasons its base claim 11 is patentable. Claim 25 is directed to a method of driving an electronic circuit and thus belongs in elected Group I of the July 3, 2006 Restriction Requirement. Claim 25 is patentable for the same reasons claims 10-12 are patentable.

V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Jonathan H. Backenstose
Registration No. 47,399

JAO:JHB/ccs

Attachment:
Amendment Transmittal

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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